AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) A flexible coupling capable of transmitting torque and comprising:

a first member having a rotary axis and comprising at least three pins;

a second member comprising at least six sockets; and

a third member having a rotary axis and comprising at least three pins,

wherein the first member is connected to the second member by at least three joints and the second member is connected to the third member by at least three joints, the joints being circumferentially spaced about said axes,

wherein each joint comprises a pin carried by the first or third member and a socket carried by the second member, the pin registering into the socket so that torque can be transmitted between the respective joint members and so that relative sliding and rotational movement can take place between each pin and associated socket,

wherein the sockets of the second member are connected by flexible extensions to each other such that the first and third members can articulate relative to one another; and

wherein longitudinal axes formed by the socket and pin joints lie in a single plane.

34. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling according to claim 33 wherein the pins of at least the first or third member are flexibly mounted thereto.

35. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling according to claim 33 wherein the sockets are mounted on a ring and interconnected by flexible elements.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Withdrawn and Presently Amended) A flexible coupling according to claim [[36]] 33 wherein at least one longitudinal axis formed by a socket and pin joint lies in a plane parallel to said single plane.

38. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 35 wherein the sockets are connected by flexible elements which are bowed in shape.

39. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling according to claim 35 wherein the sockets are formed by inserts received in bores in said ring, the bores being flexibly interconnected.

40. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling according to claim 33 wherein the pins have cylindrical surfaces which engage with cylindrical bores on the sockets.

41. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling according to claim 33 wherein the pins have part-spherical heads received in cylindrical bores in the sockets.

42. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 35 wherein the first member comprises a wheel having internally projecting radial pins.

43. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 42 wherein the sockets include inserts in the form of bushes in which the pins are received.

44. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 43 wherein the inserts are snap-fit into the sockets.

45. (Previously Presented) A flexible coupling according to claim 35 wherein the first and third members comprise outwardly projecting pins received in alternate sockets on the ring.

46. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 45 wherein all the sockets are arranged to project inwardly from the ring.

47. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 35 wherein the sockets alternatingly project inwardly and outwardly, and wherein one of the first or third members has inwardly projecting pins and the other of the first or third member has outwardly projecting pins, the pins being received in inwardly and outwardly directed sockets, respectively.

48. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 35 wherein said ring comprises two parts which are detachably secured together, each said ring part proving a portion of each socket such that when the ring parts are secured together, the socket portions are aligned to the form the sockets.

49. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 48 wherein the ring parts are identical.

50. (Withdrawn) A flexible coupling according to claim 48 wherein the ring parts are prevented from becoming detached from each other by inserts received in the sockets and which receive the pins.

51. - 62. (Cancelled)